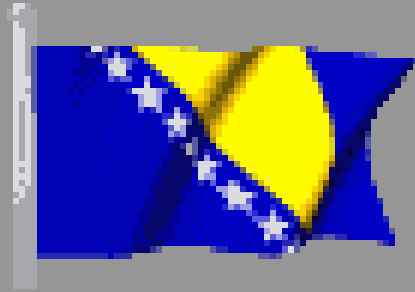


TRAVELER'S BRIEFING



BOSNIA

(BOSNA I HERCEGOVINA)



CROATIA

Belgrade
(Beograd)

DINARIC ALPS

**BOSNIA
AND
HERZEGOVINA**

SERBIA

YUGOSLAVIA

MONTENEGRO

BACKGROUND

Full Name: Bosnia and Herzegovina

Capital: Sarajevo

Population: 3,482,495 (est)

Type of government: Emerging Democracy

**Head of government: Presidents Zivko R
Ante Jelavic, Alija Izetbegovic**

Official language(s) Serbo-Croatian

**Economy: Agrarian/ Socialist-
Capitalist**

**Religions: Muslim (40%), Orthodox (31%
(15%)**

TRAVEL

Travel restrictions: None

International Airport: Sarajevo

TRANSPORTATION

Flights from Frankfurt: Air Bosna

Other methods of arrival: Road/Rail

U.S. Embassy address: 43 Alipasania Ulitsa, Sarajevo Tel: 387-71-659-969 FAX: 387-71-659-722 Website: <http://www.>

Transportation: Public transportation: Fair.

Urban Roads/Maintenance: Fair.

Rural roads/Maintenance: Poor.

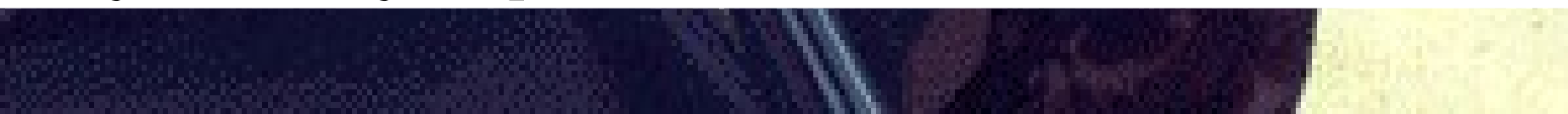
Availability of roadside assistance: Fair. Driver's licenses and permits issued by US authorities are valid. Road travel is possible throughout most of the country Travel by road should be considered risky. The driving habits of local drivers are poor, and many vehicles are in bad condition. Many accidents occur when drivers exceed safe speeds along

ENTRY/EXIT

Travel Necessities: A passport is required. A visa is not required for tourist stays up to three months unless the traveler is staying at a hotel. Unless the traveler is staying at a hotel, all foreigners must register with the local police within 48 hours of arrival. For official travel, no-fee passports are preferred. Permission to enter Bosnia and Herzegovina is granted at the border on a case-by-case basis. Military and civilian personnel deploying to Bosnia and Herzegovina in support of SFOR are exempt passports and visa requirements. Customs, immigration, and quarantine inspection is required.



Duty-free entry for personal effects.



HELPFUL HINTS

Special restrictions: The Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina does not recognize the US citizenship of persons who are citizens of both Bosnia and Herzegovina and the United States. This may hinder the ability of US consular officers to assist persons who do not enter Bosnia and Herzegovina on a US passport. Dual nationals may also be subject to national obligations, such as taxes and military service.

Photography restrictions. Photographing military installations, including airports, equipment, bridges, government checkpoints, or troops is forbidden. If in doubt, ask permission. Although physical infrastructure was devastated by the war, recently there has been significant improvement and reconstruction is accelerating. Utility service has improved dramatically, but gas, electrical, and especially water outages still occur. Hotels and travel amenities are available in Sarajevo and other major towns but are expensive. In the more remote areas of the country, public facilities vary in quality. US citizens planning to remain in American embassy operating hours are 0800-1630 Mon-Fri. obtain a temporary residence permit from the local police

MONEY

Currency restrictions: Almost all of Bosnia and Herzegovina is a cash economy. Credit cards are rarely accepted, except in Medjugorje, and travelers should not expect to use them to cover expenses. Travelers checks can be cashed in banks in major cities, but often with delays of three to four weeks. Cash transfers from abroad may also involve delays. The convertible mark, the new currency since June 1998, is pegged one-for-one with the German mark under a currency board regime, which guarantees its stability. The convertible mark is gradually replacing the German mark, which had been the de facto currency in Bosnia and Herzegovina since 1992. While German marks may continue to be accepted in some cases, all official payments have to be made in convertible marks. Any bank in Bosnia and Herzegovina should be able to exchange US dollars into the convertible marks with the usual bank commission.

Rate: Approximate: German marks 100 \$1.

HEALTH

Major threats: diarrhea, respiratory diseases, accidents, arthropod-borne diseases, STDs, cold injuries, and industrial pollution.

Availability of medical services: Fair.

Medical Insurance: May not apply in Bosnia. Check with your policy advisor to see if you are covered or will be reimbursed.

Status of hospitals: Poor.

Health Precautions: The blood supply is not screened for HIV or AIDS. Because many medicines are not obtainable, travelers should bring their own supply of prescription drugs and preventive medicines. Private medical practitioners are rare, but the number of private dentists is increasing.

Immunizations: Hep A (recommended), Hep B, typhoid, influenza, and TD. Yellow fever vaccination required of all travelers arriving from an infected area.

FORCE PROTECTION

Country Clearance is needed for high-ranking officers traveling to Bosnia. You obtain this by going through your S3/G3 section. This must be done at least 30 days ahead of scheduled visit. DV visits will also be coordinated through

Briefings: AT/FP level I brief from command's Level II trainer

Personnel may possess and carry arms if authorized to do so by their orders. Americans in Bosnia and Herzegovina, particularly in the Republika Srpska entity, are urged to avoid crowds and demonstrations, keep a low profile, and stay alert for changes in the security situation. The war in Bosnia and Herzegovina was halted by the Dayton Peace Accords in Nov 95. However, there are still risks from occasional localized political violence, land mines, unexploded ordnance, and carjackings. As many as one million land mines are still scattered throughout the country, and visitors are advised to remain on well-trafficked surfaces and roadways. There are also occasional flare-ups of violence, sometimes linked to protests over the return of displaced persons and arrests of

CRIME

Criminal Activities: Although street crime is relatively low and violent crimes are rare, petty street crimes such as pickpocketing and breaking into parked automobiles are problems. Travelers should take normal precautions to protect their property from theft and exercise common sense personal security measures such as avoiding travel in deserted areas after dark, walking in pairs, and staying in well-lighted areas after dark. The most serious problem affecting travelers to Bosnia and Herzegovina is armed, at times violent, carjacking, especially of four-wheel-drive vehicles. In carjacking situations, the U.S. Embassy advises compliance without resistance. Confrontations with local citizens resulting from traffic incidents or public disagreements should be avoided. The loss or theft of a U.S. passport should be reported immediately to the local police and the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate. Accidents involving drunk driving are an increasing problem. Driving after dark is especially

Bosnia is strict on: Drugs. Penalties for possession, use, or trafficking in illegal drugs are strict, and convicted offenders

WEATHER

<http://cnn.com/WEATHER/html>

<Http://www.weatherunderground.com/>

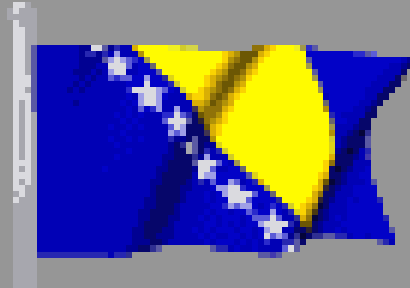


CLOTHING

Uniform restrictions: Military personnel deploying in support of SFOR operations may wear uniforms.



**This concludes the
TRAVELER'S
BRIEFING for**



BOSNIA